

Please amend the following claims:

20. (Twice Amended) A method for amplifying a DNA, comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a cDNA comprising at least one of nucleotide analogs by a reverse transcription reaction using an RNA as a template in the presence of the at least one of nucleotide analogs selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP, and hydroxymethyl dUTP; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the cDNA obtained in the above step (a), in the presence of two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs, wherein at least one nucleotide analog is selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP and dITP, and at least one nucleotide analog is selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dATP and hydroxymethyl dUTP, wherein the nucleotide analogs are uniformly incorporated into the resulting DNA, thereby selectively amplifying DNA of a target sequence derived from RNA.

23. (Twice Amended) A method for amplifying a DNA, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a template DNA comprising a nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP, and hydroxymethyl dUTP; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the template DNA of step (a) in the presence of the following substances (i) to(iii):

(i) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP and dITP,

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dATP and hydroxymethyl dUTP, and

(iii) a compound for lowering the Tm value of a double-stranded nucleic acid,  
wherein the nucleotide analogs (i) and (ii) are uniformly incorporated into the resulting DNA.

27. (Twice Amended) A method for amplifying a DNA comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing a cDNA by a reverse transcription reaction using RNA as a template in the presence of at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP, and hydroxymethyl dUTP; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the cDNA of the above step (a) in the presence of the following substances (i) to (iii):

(i) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP and dITP,

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dATP and hydroxymethyl dUTP, and

(iii) a compound for lowering the T<sub>m</sub> value of a double-stranded nucleic acid, wherein the nucleotide analogs (i) and (ii) are uniformly incorporated into the resulting DNA, thereby selectively amplifying DNA of a target sequence derived from RNA.

31. (Twice Amended) A kit for amplifying a DNA in the presence of two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs by the use of a DNA fragment comprising at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP, and hydroxymethyl dUTP as a template, comprising two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs, wherein the two or more nucleotide analogs are:

(i) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP and dITP, and

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dATP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

34. (Twice Amended) A kit for amplifying a DNA in the presence of two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs by the use of a template DNA fragment comprising at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP, and hydroxymethyl dUTP, comprising two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs and a compound for lowering the T<sub>m</sub> value of a double-stranded nucleic acid,

wherein the two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs are:

- (i) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP and dITP, and
- (ii) at least one nucleotide analog selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dATP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

Attached hereto is a marked up version showing the changes made to the application by this Amendment.